

## A SILVER DREAM

Rilla fried potatoes every night  
and set her table with  
two-tined forks, greenish spoons  
and knives with missing handles  
dreamed the same dream in  
broad daylight

a velvet-lined case for silver  
and a Betty Crocker service for  
eight

everyone in Jerkwater  
collected coupons for her  
even the hermit who made  
pancakes from the mix

and a girl whose fiancée had  
jilted her  
brought Rilla enough coupons  
to get a gravy ladle  
she had meant for her own use

the last we heard

Rilla was starting to collect  
iced tea spoons  
and the jilted girl's fiancée  
had shown up  
and wanted her to take him  
back